



From the Ambassador's Desk

A Bi-Monthly Update from the U.S. Embassy in Lisbon

August 2015

Versão Portuguesa

PHOTO HIGHLIGHT



Secretary of State John Kerry and Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz toast historic Iranian deal with fine Madeira wine given by Ambassador Sherman

AMBASSADOR'S MESSAGE

>> **From Ambassador Robert A. Sherman**



This summer has been a remarkable one for American diplomacy. We have seen the reopening of the U.S. Embassy in Cuba and the completion of a comprehensive, long-term deal with Iran that will verifiably prevent that nation from obtaining a nuclear weapon. Back in the U.S., Congress passed the trade promotion authority bill which, in the words of Secretary Kerry, “grants President Obama the authority to negotiate trade deals that will simultaneously ensure our national security and guarantee our prosperity.” The Secretary went on to say, “By passing TPA and working to secure commitments on TPP and its European counterpart, the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, we are making clear our intention to ensure a more prosperous and secure America, as well as promoting a more democratic and stable international economy.”

This last month we were honored to host U.S. Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz. Secretary Moniz received the Grand Cross of the Order of Prince Henry the Navigator from President Cavaco Silva, met with Prime Minister Passos Coelho and was a keynote speaker at a conference hosted by Gulbenkian focusing on "The New Energy Challenges." At the end of his visit, as he departed back to Vienna to finalize the Iran deal, I gave him a bottle of fine Madeira wine and told him only to open it after a deal with Iran had been secured. As you can see he and Secretary Kerry enjoyed a toast with that wine after the completion of the Iran deal in Vienna.

We have also continued our focus on entrepreneurship and innovation. Keeping a focus on life sciences, in July the Embassy hosted microbiologist Tyler DeWitt as he toured the country speaking to students. Dr. DeWitt is first and foremost a teacher who believes that a passion for science starts young. During his time in Portugal he spoke to more than 1000 secondary students from Porto to Aveiro, Lisbon to Ponta Delgada, and everywhere he went he made quite an impact. We were pleased to host him and I'd encourage you to see what he has to say about making science fun at his TEDx talk [here](#).

As many of you know, encouraging, and supporting entrepreneurs is a key priority for the Embassy. In fact, it is a priority for the President. Following his historic 2009 Cairo speech, President Obama elevated innovation and entrepreneurship in the U.S. engagement agenda and hosted the first Global Entrepreneurship Summit at the White House in 2010. Over the past six years, the United States has been a leader in catalyzing entrepreneurship globally by developing innovative ecosystems; advocating for stronger business climates through rule of law and transparent business conduct; promoting entrepreneurship for women, youth, and marginalized communities; and mobilizing the private sector to expand impact.

Here in Portugal the Embassy's Connect to Success program has grown incredibly over the past year from 25 participants to more than 300 women owned businesses in the network. This month the Embassy was able to connect our efforts with the President's as we supported the travel of three Portuguese women owned businesses that were selected by the White House to participate in the Global Entrepreneurship Summit in Nairobi, Kenya. These Portuguese companies, [Acquawise Consulting](#), [Manifesto Moda](#), and [Last2Ticket](#), are all part of the Embassy's Connect to Success network. The President demonstrated his commitment to fostering entrepreneurship around the world through his presence and support of the Summit in Nairobi and we at the Embassy will continue to support entrepreneurs and innovators here in Portugal.

FEATURE STORY

>> U.S. Embassy Lisbon’s Cyber Security Visitor Program Advances Cyber Policy Cooperation



The Embassy in June organized a visitor program for Portuguese public and private sector officials that focused on the challenging topic of cyber policy. Participants included representatives from the National Security Authority’s Cyber Security Operations Center, Ministry of Defense, Presidency, and a prominent law firm, among others. While in Washington they met with a broad range of government, private sector, and

civil society experts at the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Defense, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), George Washington University, and BitSight Networks. At a July breakfast that U.S. Ambassador Robert Sherman hosted, they called the visitor program a “once in a lifetime experience that exceeded all expectations,” and said they had “found their partners” as a result of the visit.

Participants praised the U.S. multi-stakeholder approach to developing cyber policy and also requested more regular dialogue with the U.S. private sector, government, and academia. Only the private sector was dynamic and nimble enough to innovate and respond to cyber threats in real time, they reasoned. Participants also agreed to regularly convene multi-stakeholder cyber policy meetings at the working and director levels. They also suggested U.S. military service academies and universities would find willing exchange partners in Portugal and voiced intention to begin exploratory contacts. One visitor emphasized that Portuguese business schools should offer a cybersecurity curriculum like that of George Washington University’s World Executive MBA with Cybersecurity. Another suggested Portugal’s Catolica University as another possible partner for U.S. universities, given its work to develop cyber awareness training for judges and prosecutors.

Encouraged by the visit, all looked forward to working with the Embassy and U.S. stakeholders to regularize future cyber training and policy coordination. The Embassy is pleased with the success of the cyber visitor program and will continue to work with the Portuguese government, academics, and civil society to enhance our cooperation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

>> Lumina Light Festival September 11-13 in Caiscais



The U.S. Embassy in Lisbon is one of the sponsors of this year’s Lumina Light Festival, a free international event in its fourth edition dedicated to the art of light in public spaces. For three nights, more than twenty national and international artists will transform Cascais into an open-air art gallery including light and color shows, multimedia projections, and light sculptures. The festival will take place in the historical center of Cascais, September 11-13, 9:00 pm- 12:00 am. For more information, visit <http://www.lumina.pt>

>> Cine Clube film screening at American Corner, FCT-NOVA



“A.I. Artificial Intelligence” on September 29@5:00 p.m.

American Corner, FCT-NOVA (Library Auditorium)

<http://goo.gl/P1qxll>

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>> Portuguese Entrepreneurs at GES 2015 [Read more >>](#)

>> 2015 Fulbright Grantees Reception [Read more >>](#)

>> Tyler DeWitt: “Science Can Be Fun!” [Read more >>](#)

>> U.S. Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz in Portugal [Read more >>](#)

>> Independence Day at Embassy Lisbon [Read more >>](#)

>> Embassy Holds Ceremony to Honor LGBT Pride Month [Read more >>](#)

>> Embassy Lisbon Partnership in Entrepreneur Exchange Web Chat [Read more >>](#)

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